

**REMARKS**

The applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing Preliminary Amendment and the following Remarks be considered before action on the merits.

This Preliminary Amendment amends the specification to add a "Cross Reference to Related Applications" section to refer to the parent application 09/384,186 filed on August 27, 1999.

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 10-16, 18-20, 24-29, 32-40 and 42 have been designated as belonging to Species A, sub-species (a) in the discussion of the Election/Restrictions in the Office Action of August 21, 2003 in the parent application. The Examiner identified claims 2, 8-9, 17 and 23 as having been cancelled. The Examiner identified claims 4, 21-22, 30-31 and 41 as non-elected.

In a telephone call to the applicant's representative, Anthony N. Fresco, the undersigned, on March 30, 2004, the Examiner indicated that claims 1, 3, 4 and 18-22 are allowable in the parent application if the applicant cancels the remaining withdrawn claims 5-7, 10-16 and 24-42. In a telephonic response on March 31, 2004, the applicant's representative agreed to the cancellation of claims 5-7, 10-16 and 24-42 in the parent application.

Therefore, this Preliminary Amendment to the divisional application maintains claims 4, 5-7, 10-16, 21-22 and 24-42 in the application.

Claims 4, 15, 21 and 25 have been rewritten into independent form, since their base claims are the subject of additional restriction requirements.

Claims 4 and 15 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of base claim 1.

Claim 21 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of base claim 20. Claim

25 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of base claim 23. Claims 1-3, 8-9, 17-20 and 23 have been cancelled. Claims 5, 10-12, 24, 26, 28, 30-32 and 34-38 have been amended to incorporate all amendments, as applicable, made in the responses to the Office Actions of July 26, 2001; April 24, 2002; October 17, 2002; February 7, 2003; June 4, 2003; and August 21, 2003 in the parent application. No new matter has been added.

The present amendment does not introduce new matter into the application. Early and favorable consideration of the present application, as amended herein, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony N. Fresco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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